

there, he developed an airport by receiving grants to move the historic train station to be reused as a terminal building. These efforts resulted in the establishment of regular air service with a local carrier, promoting economic development and easy access to the area by sportsmen. He enlisted the Maine National Guard to do their summer training session in Princeton, and with the work of hundreds of military personnel with heavy equipment, a new mile-long major access road to the airport from Route 1 was completed in just 2 weeks.

While serving in the town of Dexter, he prepared successful applications to the Community Development Block Grant Program that resulted in the renovation of the entire downtown area by adding new decorative streetlights, improved sidewalks, better drainage, and related road work. This effort revitalized the downtown area and spurred private investment in the Main Street buildings.

In the town of Standish, he worked extensively on the growth management plan, which established a roadmap for future community development.

In the town of Norway, where he has served for the past 28 years, David has worked diligently to ensure that the town stays in sound financial condition, as well as keeping the Main Street economically and culturally vibrant. He instituted a sidewalk building program that has resulted in Norway becoming one of Maine's most walkable communities. Perhaps his crowning achievements were the successful grant application and efforts to save the town's historic opera house. David will be long remembered in all the towns he has served for his commitment to community betterment and his forward-thinking positive management style.●

RECOGNIZING FIN FUN MERMAID TAILS

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, the American dream is alive and well today. Entrepreneurs across this country are innovators, leaders, and visionaries who exemplify many of the characteristics that make this country great. Idaho's small businesses and the entrepreneurs behind them share a dedication to producing the highest quality products and services. Hard work, dedication, and passion are among some of the other traits that successful entrepreneurs share, whether they be from Idaho or anywhere else in our great country. All of these qualities are on display in this month's Small Business of the Month. As chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, it is my pleasure to recognize Fin Fun Mermaid Tails as the Senate Small Business of the Month for May 2017.

Fin Fun got its start in 2009 when its founder, Karen Browning, was asked by her granddaughter to design and make a mermaid tail. Even with over 50

years of experience sewing, she was not sure she could complete her granddaughter's request. With some creativity and ingenuity, Mrs. Browning designed the mermaid fins out of spandex swimsuit material and a rigid body for the fin. The design proved so popular that, when Emily and her sister, Sarah, swam with the fins on at the local pool, all their friends asked where they could get a tail of their own. Mrs. Browning began selling the product on eBay and Etsy in 2010. With demand increasing, Mrs. Browning's sons, Eric and Steve Browning, returned to Idaho to run the Fin Fun business. Sales of Fin Fun products increased dramatically since its opening, from selling 200 mermaid tails per month in 2011 to more than 500,000 in 2016.

Fin Fun offers a number of products including their famous mermaid tails, patented Monofin, swimwear, animal blankets, pool toys, and other accessories. In 2012, Eric and Steve Browning took over the day-to-day operations of the company as the founders Jerry and Karen went on a mission for their church. In 2015, Fin Fun purchased a 10,000-square-foot building located on the Lewisville Highway, where the company continues to grow. In that same year, Fin Fun was highlighted by various media outlets, including the Wall Street Journal. In 2016, the company was named to Inc. 500's fastest growing companies list, as the 119th fastest growing company with 3,000 percent growth over a 3-year period. Through the leadership of Eric and Steve Browning and the success of Fin Fun, the company has created more than 75 full-time and part-time jobs within the Idaho Falls area.

As a family-run business, Fin Fun continues to set an example by donating a percentage of its profits to more than 18 charitable organizations annually, in addition to providing employment and support to the local community. Fin Fun is the manifestation of the entrepreneurial spirit that epitomizes the essence of the great State of Idaho. I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to the employees and owners of Fin Fun Mermaid for being selected as the May 2017 Small Business of the Month. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 496. An act to repeal the rule issued by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration entitled "Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform".

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

At 11:43 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 657. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend certain protections against prohibited personnel practices, and for other purposes.

H.R. 910. An act to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to provide a safe harbor related to certain investment fund research reports, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1242. An act to establish the 400 Years of African-American History Commission, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1312. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Incentive Act of 1980 to require an annual review by the Securities and Exchange Commission of the annual government-business forum on capital formation that is held pursuant to such Act.

H.R. 1366. An act to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to terminate an exemption for companies located in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and any other possession of the United States.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 657. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend certain protections against prohibited personnel practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 910. An act to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to provide a safe harbor related to certain investment fund research reports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1312. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Incentive Act of 1980 to require an annual review by the Securities and Exchange Commission of the annual government-business forum on capital formation that is held pursuant to such Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, May 2, 2017, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill: